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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Grimma

25X1 EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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25X1 DATE OF CONTENT

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 12 and 14 November 1953, the Strassburg Kaserne in Grimma was occupied by about 1,000 to 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 30 percent with tank insignia, 10 percent with artillery insignia and about 20 women. About 80 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted after sunset.

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officers and EM were granted a 4-week leave after 11 months of service. About 10 percent of the troops were on leave during the winter months. On 12 November, 25 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were working on 6 trucks, 2 sedans, 2 sidescar motorcycles and 2 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, while about 45 troops engaged in physical training, two groups, each of about 45 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, received basic infantry training and 3 groups, each of 9 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, received theoretical instruction. Three six-wheel armored personnel carriers were seen in front of a garage.

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2. Between 12 and 14 November, the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 to 1,300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and about 15 to 20 women. A worker stated that the installation was occupied to capacity. About 90 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted after nightfall. Personnel were granted town leave every Friday. On 14 November, 19 women wearing red-bordered black epaulets engaged in a ball game, about 80 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were polishing quarters and 6 groups, each of about 35 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia, had fallen in for a rifle inspection. About 80 trucks, about 7 tank trucks, 4 sedans, 4 jeeps

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3 ambulances, 5 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, and 7 sidecar motorcycles were being inspected in front of the garages. About 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen during the inspection.

3. Between 10 and 23 November, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing artillery, tank and motor transport insignia and the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by about 350 engineer troops, about 350 signal troops and about 150 troops of a supply unit.

A few groups of soldiers were occasionally seen engaged in physical training in the barracks yard. Between 10 and 23 November, numerous officers and EN bought suitcases in the town. On 23 November, about 25 officers from sublieutenant up to, and including, senior lieutenant, some of them wearing artillery insignia; and carrying briefcases and map pouches left Grima aboard the regular passenger train at 10:15 p.m. About the same number of officers with the same ranks had seen them off to the station, had a drink with them there and subsequently returned to the barracks installations.

the officers had attended a lecture in the Nagema or officers' club. for the last two weeks, officers wearing civilian clothes, in addition to officers in uniform, visited German restaurants.

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